Pacific Seabird Group

BULLETIN

Volume 18 Number 2 1991

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) was formed in 1972 out of a need for better communication among Pacific seabird researchers. The Group coordinates and stimulates the field activities of its members and informs its membership and the general public of conservation issues relating to Pacific seabirds and the marine environment. Current activities include involvement in seabird sanctuaries, coastal surveys, seabird/fisheries interactions, and legislation. Policy statements are issued on conservation issues of critical importance. Although PSG's primary area of interest is the west coast of North America and adjacent areas of the Pacific Ocean, it is hoped that seabird enthusiasts in other parts of the world will join and participate in PSG. Annual dues for membership are $15 (Individual and Family); $10 (Student, undergraduate and graduate); and $450 (Life Membership, payable in five $90 installments). Dues are payable to the Treasurer, whose address is on the back cover. Members receive the PSG *Bulletin* (Family members receive only one copy).

PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP *BULLETIN*

The Pacific Seabird Group *Bulletin* (ISSN 0740-3771) is published twice a year, in the spring and fall. It contains news of interest to PSG members and regional reports, including a listing of current research and information on seabird conservation. The PSG *Bulletin* is not an outlet for the results of scientific research, but articles on seabird conservation, seabird research activities, or other topics related to the objectives of PSG are welcome. All materials should be submitted to the Editor. Back issues of the *Bulletin* may be ordered from the Treasurer; please remit $2.50 each for issues of Vols. 1-8 (1974-1981) and $5.00 each for issues of Vol. 9 and later.

PERMANENT ADDRESS

Pacific Seabird Group, c/o Point Reyes Bird Observatory
4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970

This address is for use only by those who have lost track of current officers. Routine correspondence should be sent to the appropriate Executive Council member listed on the back cover.

DONATIONS

Contributions to the Pacific Seabird Group qualify for tax deductions under IRC Section 501(c)(3).

Pacific Seabird Group

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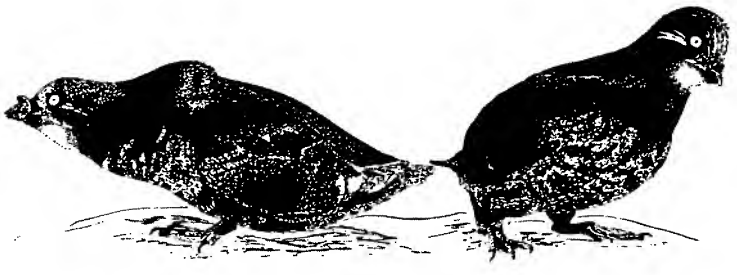


CHAIR'S PAGE

It has been a great pleasure to work for the Pacific Seabird Group during this last year. We are quite active and are a strong organization. I have been extremely pleased with our efforts as illustrated by the regional and committee reports in the bulletin.

We are honored to have received a generous donation from Theodore Cross of Princeton, New Jersey, for our efforts in conservation and studies of seabirds. Mr. Cross is a well-known bird photographer.

Over the last year, we have tried to increase communication within PSG and I feel we have a very good communication network.

The summer ballot to institute the new position of Vice-Chair for Conservation in our By-Laws was overwhemingly approved. The new nominations and ballots will include this position. With the next meeting, we will have a Vice-Chair for Conservation. This will give us greater strength in our conservation efforts.

The Conservation Committee, Fisheries and Seabird Committee, Marbled Murrelet Committee and the PSG 2001 Committee have all been quite active. This will be evident from the bulletin and during discussions at the next annual meeting.

After six years as chair of the Seabird and Fisheries Committee, Alec McCall has decided to step down. We will miss his leadership in this role. He has run the committee with an effort to deal with the issues in a positive and constructive framework. We thank him for his contributions over the years.

We will be looking for someone to replace Alec.

With everything going smoothly, I look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting in Oregon.

Malcolm C. Coulter

PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP ANNUAL MEETING

15-19 JANUARY, 1992

The annual meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group will be held at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, Charleston, Oregon (OIMB) from 15-18 January 1992, with planned post-meeting field trips on January 19, 1992.

The meeting is sponsored by the University of Oregon's Institute of Marine Biology and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The local organizer is Jan Hodder (O.I.M.B., Charleston, OR 97420. Phone: 503-888-2581 FAX: 503-888-3250). The scientific program is being organized by Palmer Sekora, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 26208 Finley Refuge Rd., Corvallis, OR 97333 Phone: 503-757-7236 FAX: 503-757-4450.

TRANSPORTATION

North Bend airport is 7 miles from OIMB. It is served by Horizon Air (a partner with Alaska Air) via Portland or Eugene. We have arranged for discount fares with Horizon, you should quote fare basis: MCMT0020 when booking your ticket to receive the discount. Early reservations are recommended. We will meet all the incoming flights to the North Bend airport on Wednesday Jan. 15, and provide rides to the airport on Sunday Jan. 19. If you arrive at other times a taxi from the airport is $10.

Approximate driving times to Charleston: San Francisco - 11 hours, Seattle - 8 hours, Portland - 5 hours, Eugene - 2 1/2 hours.

WEATHER

Charleston is on the edge of the Pacific ocean. Temperatures will be mild (days 12°C, nights 7°C). It may rain, it may not, be prepared as you will be walking outside between buildings.

PSG PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICE

Art Sowls has volunteered to arrange a slide exchange at this years meeting. PSG members who have slides that they would be willing to share with the membership are urged to bring them to the meeting where orders for duplicates will be made, and provided to you at cost. Anyone with slides to lend, ideas or questions should contact Art Sowls, AMNWR, 202 Pioneer, Homer, AK 99603, Phone: 907-235-6546.

A LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP CONCERNING THE PSG ENDOWMENT FUND

With some concern I read in the latest 1991 bulletin the statement that "potential uses of this fund need to be considered carefully by the Executive Council." It was then suggested that the endowment might be used as seed money for new undertakings or, perhaps, the interest might be used to fund awards.

The endowment was established in 1983. During that Executive Council meeting it was suggested by me that PSG establish an endowment to fund and disseminate the products of symposia, or possibly to support small research projects, and that we use the $ 1,000.00 contribution from the Bullitt Foundation to start the fund and aim for $ 100,000.00. The purpose of the fund is indicated in the measure as voted upon by the Executive Council which reads as follows:

> "That PSG (a) establish an endowment fund for funding quality seabird symposia and their publication; (b) that all donations to the fund be considered principal to be invested, funding for symposium-related activities to be decided by the Executive Council and to come only from investment income; (c) that financial management of the fund be the responsibility of the Treasurer and two investing trustees, chosen by the Executive Council for terms of at least three years. (PSG Bulletin 10 (2), 1983)

The above makes clear the purpose for which the endowment was established and the purpose for which contributors, including ~yself, intended their donations. It is **to fund symposia-related activities or to disseminate the reults of the symposia.** My first concern is that use by PSG, as a non-profit organization, of this fund for any othe purpose may entail legal consequences which the Council should explore fully. And note that **only interest the fund generates, not principal, is to be used.**

My second concern entails a warning and a hope. The fund started with a mere $ 1,000.00 some eight years ago. It now stands at $21,977 and earned interest for PSG this year alone of $2,235.00. Note below a compressed table of the effects of compounding money (at 10% per yr) by NOT touching the interest until you reach your goal (i.e., what would happen if we do as we have been doing: simply return the earned interest to the account where it becomes principal and in turn earns interest the next year):

Year	Theoretical Amount in Fund
1991	$ 21,962.00
1995	32,lS3.00
2000	51,780.00
2005	83,389.00
2007	100,899.00

ONLY 17 YEARS TO REACH $ 100,000.00! And if in addition to letting the interest compound, PSG adds a bit to the principal each year (for example, from life memberships or even better, modest fund-raising), the compounding fund will grow at an even greater rate, especially in the early years.

Members need to appreciate that if the Symposium Fund is left alone, if it is left to compound for a relatively few years out of the hoped-for overall life of PSG—of course we hope that's at least a couple of hundred years—the fund could be built to consist of say $100,000.00 in principal which then, at 5 to 10% interest a year would annually bring in five to ten-thousand dollars for PSG.

My warning: if the Council begin6 to withdraw interest prematurely to pay for this little project and that rather than allow the Fund to sit happily compounding for fifteen to twenty years, they will rob the future PSG of a genuinely substantial annual income.

My hope: that PSG Council Members and the General Membership will hold firm to a vision of building a significant endowment from which the organization can then draw interest to fund significant dissemination of information about seabirds. Also that succeeding PSG Chairs will eagerly pursue additional fund-raising each year to help the fund grow as fast as possible.

When our goal is reached, PSG might then, for example, be able to publish and distribute our own symposia. And the profits from those symposia--which are substantial and now often go to other societies who publish for us--the profits earned from the sales of our symposia can be fed back into other projects PSG may wish to pursue.

MEMBERS! LET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS KNOW THAT YOU WANT TO KEEP THE SYMPOSIUM ENDOWMENT FUND COMPOUNDING UNDISTURBED UNTIL IT REACHES GOAL FOR THE GOOD HEALTH AND EMPOWERMENT OF PSG'S FUTURE.

THINK BIG PSG!

Sincerely, Judith Latta Hand

Dear Malcolm:

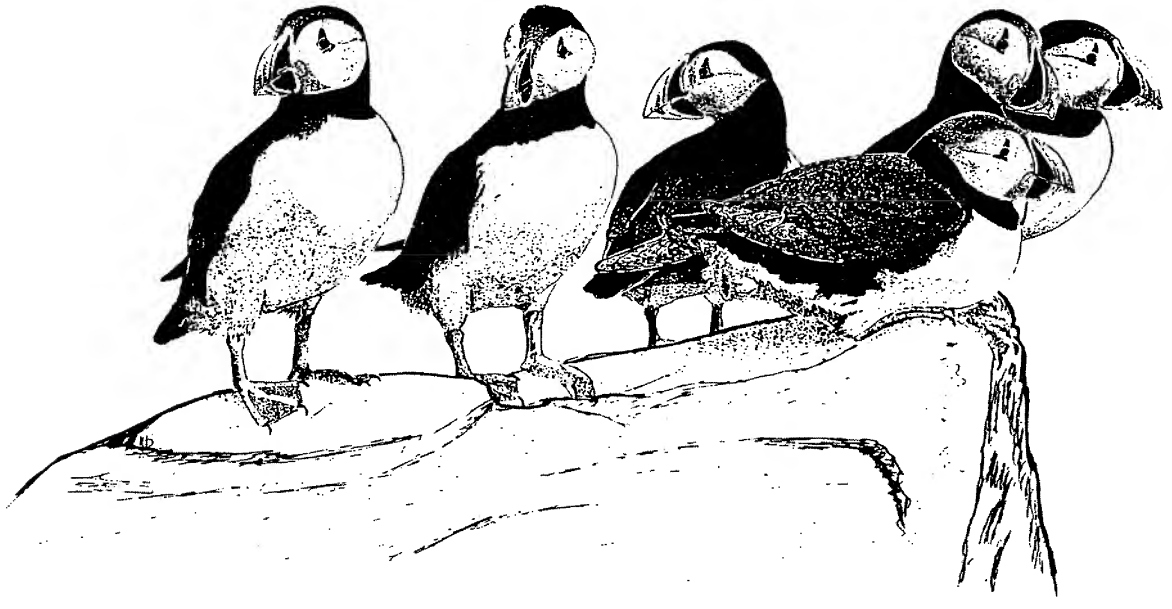
I am writing to you as a concerned member of the Pacific Seabird Group, a member of the Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee, the past Marbled Murrelet Research Guidelines and Priorities group leader, and as a waterbird researcher. In addition, you should know that I have been, and continue to be, a consultant to the timber industry in northern California and Oregon on matters relating to the management of forest lands containing Marbled Murrelets. However, please be clear that I am writing foremost as a member of the Pacific Seabird Group and the Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee, and as one concerned for the continued integrity and professional standing of the Pacific Seabird Group.

Simply and directly, I do not think it appropriate that the Pacific Seabird Group as a whole, nor the Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee of the Pacific Seabird Group in particular, should be directly involved in the development of management guidelines for the Marbled Murrelet, or indeed, for any species. That task should be left to agencies and other interested parties: no doubt in this case Pacific Seabird Group members would be involved on their own initiative. I do feel that it would be appropriate for the Pacific Seabird Group Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee to review a final draft document for scientific accuracy and to make technical comments to the groups and other parties writing the document. When completed, I feel that it would be an appropriate and responsible action for the Pacific Seabird Group as a whole to endorse, or not to endorse, in this case the Marbled Murrelet Interim Management Guidelines.

Basically, I feel that the Pacific Seabird Group has to be very careful of its level of involvement in conservation issues, relative to its other activities. A balance should be maintained between the level of involvement in conservation issues and the fundamental activities of the group. In my opinion primacy should be given to the group's professional and scientific functions. Indeed, such a balanced program will likely enhance the effectiveness of the Pacific Seabird Group when it does address conservation issues, as it should when appropriate.

It is my hope that the concerns expressed herein will encourage further discussion and debate among the Pacific Seabird Group membership in the particular and in general. I look forward to hearing from you and other Pacific Seabird Group members.

Sincerely, Steven M. Speich



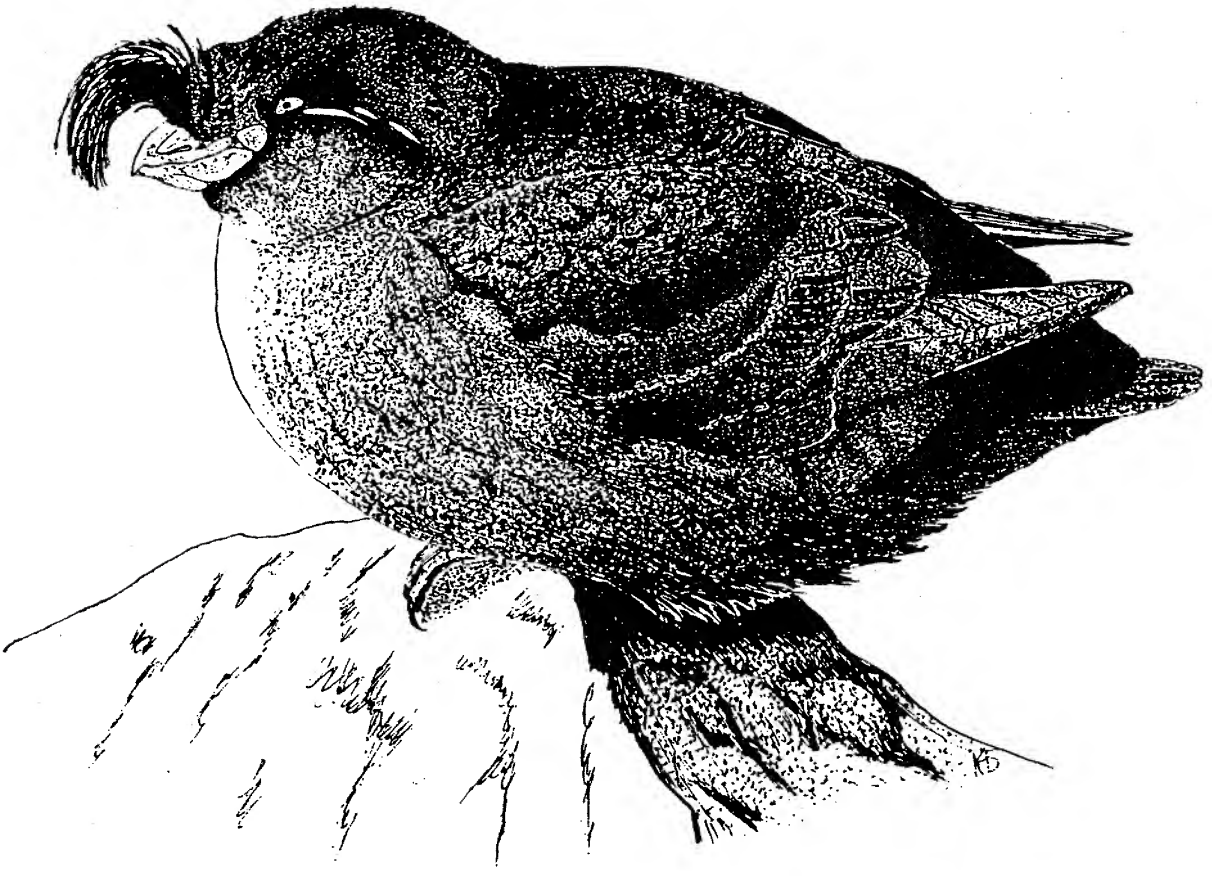
US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE CONSIDERS LISTING EIDERS AS ENDANGERED SPECIES

On April 25, 1991, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service announced 90-day findings in the Federal Register on James G. King's petition to add the Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*) and Spectacled Eider (*Somateria fisheri*) to the list of threatened and endangered species. The Service found that the petition presents substantial information showing that listing may be warranted and commenced a formal review of the status of the two species. **Anyone with information (especially from the U.S.S.R.), comments or questions should contact David McGillivary, USFWS, 605 West 4th Avenue, Room G-2, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 (907-271-2888).**

The current and historical data on the eiders indicates there have been significant reductions in population during the past several decades. Because FWS and the State of Alaska do not routinely survey for these species over much of their ranges, we know their distribution chiefly from historical and incidental observations. Steller's eiders nest primarily in the Siberian arctic. In Alaska, they nest predominantly along the coast of the Yukon Delta and near Barrow. Although common in the Yukon Delta during the 1920s, the last recorded nesting there was a single nest in 1975. A century ago they were a rare but regular visitor at Barrow but biologists have not found any nests for the past ten years. Most of the world population of Steller's eiders winters along the north side of the Alaska Peninsula, most of which nests coinciding with reported declines for nesting birds in Siberia. The primary breeding location for spectacled eiders is the Yukon Delta coast, although they probably breed in low numbers across the arctic coastal plain. They also nest along the northern coast of Siberia. During the early 1970s, the Yukon Delta supported 50,000-70,000 pairs of spectacled eiders.

Based on limited survey information, this species may have declined 94 percent. Wintering areas remain unknown, although biologists speculate that they winter offshore along the ice edge in the Bering Sea. FWS is unsure of the causes of the declines in these populations, but listed as potential threats "subsistence" hunting (Alaskan natives still engage in spring hunts) increased predation, habitat loss, oil pollution, fish-net mortality, and changes in marine ecology.

— Craig Harrison



REGIONAL REPORTS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, DONNA C. BREWER

Donna Brewer is resigning as PSG southern California representative to leave for a minimum of three years cruising Mexico, Costa Rica, and the southern Pacific Ocean with her husband, Gary, aboard their 44' sailboat. PSG members may contact Donna by writing to her c/o 824 N. Crescent Hts., Los Angeles, CA 90046. Donna hopes to continue with her conservation activities with PSG by distributing PSG seabird disturbance brochures (being developed by Bill Everett and Dan Anderson) during her stay in Baja. Trudi Ingram has offered to serve as the "interim" PSG representative for southern California. Trudi may be reached at Channel Island National Park, 1901 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura, CA 93001, or (805) 644-8157.

University of California, Los Angeles

Betty Anne Schreiber is continuing work for her Ph.D. studying populations, growth rates, longevity, pair bonds, and general breeding biology of nesting seabirds in the Central Pacific Ocean (Christmas and Johnston Islands).

Lisa Ballance is continuing work for her Ph.D. studying seabirds in the eastern tropical Pacific. Her research, in conjunction with Bob Pitman and Steve Reilly of the Southwest Fisheries Center, involves studies of community structure and flight energetics of seabirds which forage in flocks above schools of yellowfin and skipjack tuna, and spotted and spinner dolphins.

Scott Johnston is studying least terns at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base in San Diego County for his M.A. thesis. His work involves a study on the effects of human disturbance and predation on nesting behavior of least terns, and habituation to disturbances.

University of California, Irvine

George Hunt is continuing his NSF funded research on arctic seabird energetics and foraging strategies. This research is being conducted in the Pribilof Islands and is focusing on examining correlations between ocean thermal fronts, seabird prey concentrations, and seabird foraging activities. Additional information is provided in the Alaska Representatives report.

Eric Woehler arrived from Australia to join George Hunt as a graduate

student at UC Irvine. Eric's research interests include meso- to large-scale processes that affect seabird populations. He is currently investigating carbon flux and energy flows in the diets of southern ocean seabirds.

California State University, Long Beach

Charlie Collins is banding elegant terns and black skimmers at Bolsa Chica wetlands.

Pat Baird has taken over Brian Obst's position as coordinator for the State contract to monitor California least tern colonies. Pat and Barbara Massey are continuing research for the U.S. Navy on the breeding biology and longevity of the California least tern at Camp Pendleton in southern California. This research involves an aggressive banding program of adult terns. Dennis Heinemann has joined Pat to work in an effort to establish a new colony of California least terns in the Santa Monica Bay estuary system, funded by the Environmental Protection Agency.

National Park Service

Trudi Ingram reports that the Park Service will be continuing monitoring efforts initiated in 1984 to document the nesting effort, productivity, and phenology of seabirds within the Channel Islands National Park. The Park Service is also investigating the use of aerial photography for surveying seabird populations on the Islands.

Minerals Management Service

Gordon Reetz reports that the Minerals Management Service hopes to award a study of the distribution of seabirds and mammals of the southern California planning area (San Luis Obispo County south to the Mexican border) to the State of California, University of California system. A study of shorebirds from southern California to Baja California is planned for fiscal year 1992. The final report on the Oregon and Washington Marine Mammal and Seabird Surveys will be available in January 1992.

Gordon also reported that he and Palmer Sekora may be cohosting a seminar on seabird database use and management at the next PSG meeting in Oregon.

Fish and Wildlife Service

Harry Carter and Dave Gilmer just completed a 1 year survey of nesting seabird colonies in the southern California area. Significant findings at the Channel Islands this year included the discovery of nesting tufted puffins and rhinoceros auklets on Prince Island off San Miguel Island.

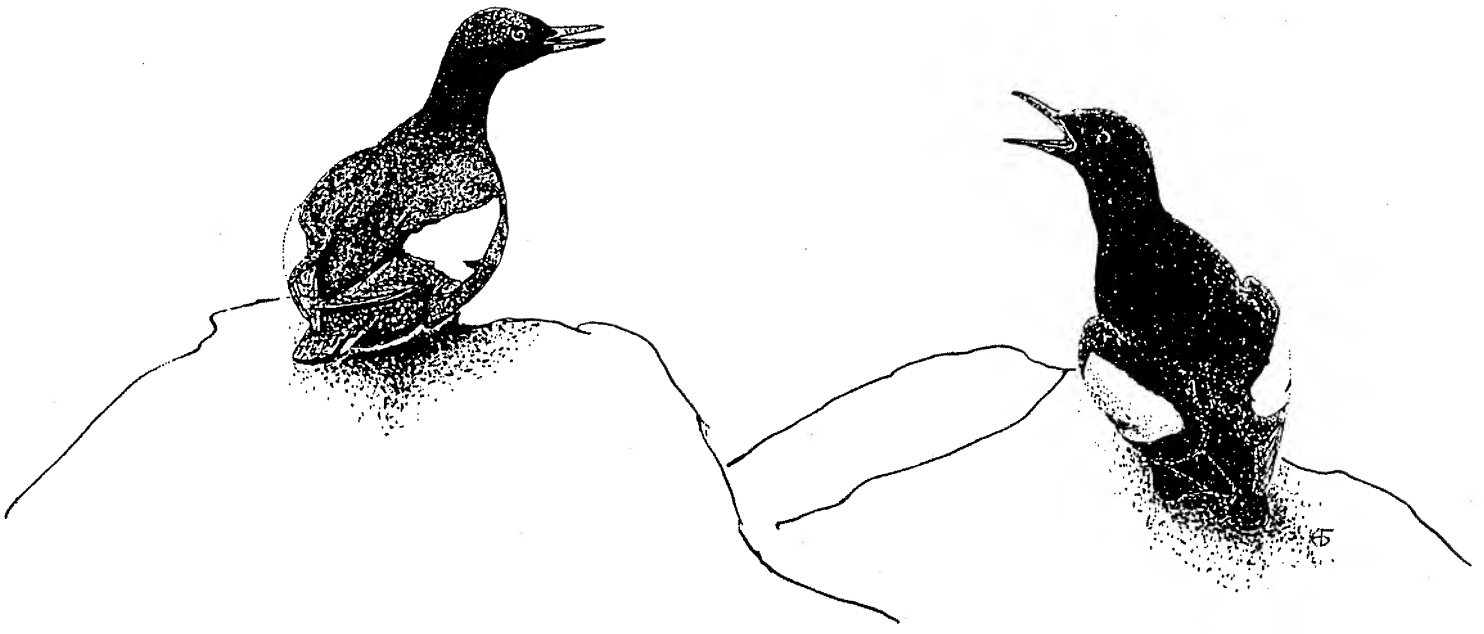
Dick Zembal of the Laguna Niguel Field Office reports that the Service is conducting a survey of the nesting habits and foraging activities of western snowy plovers on Camp Pendelton, San Diego County. The Service is also completing the third year of monthly surveys of seabird/shorebird use of three coastal marshes (Mugu lagoon, Seal Beach wetlands, and Santa Margarita River estuary). Both are funded by the U.S. Navy.

Donna Brewer of the Ventura Office reports that the Service is participating in discussions with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) regarding the development of a Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Plan, to be modeled after the existing Northern Anchovy Managment Plan. This plan will address the management of other important forage fish species (i.e., Pacific sardine, Pacific mackerel, and market squid) which are utilized by seabirds, marine mammals, and fishermen. PSG members Dan Anderson, Frank Gress, and Alec McCall will also be providing input to the development of this Plan.

Donna Brewer also has been cooperating with Marty Golden of the National Marine Fisheries Service and Steve Crooke of CDFG in the development of a brochure for recreational fishermen which describes techniques to avoid hooking or entangling seabirds in fishing gear. The brochure also discusses methods for unhooking and releasing the birds once hooked. Dan Anderson, Frank Gress, and Trudi Ingram all provided helpful comments on this brochure which should be available for the next PSG meeting. Since NMFS has printed up 150,000 copies, PSG members are urged to help distribute these to groups or individuals which may benefit from the information.

Other PSG members

Bill Everett is wrapping up his third year of research on the breeding biology of storm petrels on the Coronados Islands. Bill will also be spending October and November lecturing about birds aboard a cruise ship on the Amazon River. Bill and Dan Anderson are continuing preparation of a brochure about disturbance of seabirds in Baja California.



CENTRAL CALIFORNIA, JEAN E. TAKEKAWA

University of California, Davis

Dan Anderson is involved in the California Department of Fish and Game study on pelican disease interactions and prevalence. He is continuing longterm monitoring studies on the seabirds of the Gulf of California.

Deborah Jaques is completing her Master's research with Dan Anderson on Brown Pelican communal roosting behavior and habitat use during the nonbreeding period. Deborah Jaques and Craig Strong are currently conducting a survey of birds in coastal central California State Parks, funded by California State Parks.

Darcy Hu is finishing her Master's research with Dan Anderson on agerelated reproduction in Red-footed Boobies.

Pollo Moreno is conducting his Master's research with Dan Anderson on white pelicans on the breeding grounds in northern California and wintering grounds in Mexico.

Ruth Elbert will begin her Master's project this fall with Dan Anderson, investigating ecotoxicology in piscivorous birds.

D. Michael Fry is conducting a toxicity study to examine petroleum and dispersant effects on isolated red blood cells, as a model for hemolytic anemia of seabirds exposed to oil. He is also conducting a study on bioaccumulation and toxic effects of dioxin in herons and ospreys, using poultry as model birds. A study is in progress on mitochondrial DNA sequencing in Marbled Murrelets and auklets, comparing California and Alaskan populations. D. Michael Fry and Dan Anderson continue their telemetry studies on the recovery of brown pelicans following release from cleaning centers.

Jay Davis is conducting his Ph.D. research with D. Michael Fry on the ecology and pollutant exposure in cormorants in San Francisco Bay and the Delta.

University of California, Santa Cruz

Nancy Naslund continues her work on marbled murrelets in the Santa Cruz Mountains and Alaska.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory

A. Farallon National Wildlife Refuge and Gulf of the Farallones. Bill Sydeman, Peter Pyle, Joan Walsh, and David Ainley continue to monitor breeding seabirds at the Farallon Islands. They are continuing demographic studies on Western Gulls, Brandt's Cormorants, Cassin's Auklets, and Common Murres on Farallon NWR. Reprints are available on two Western Gull studies and a Cassin's Auklet study. They are conducting a study on diet, foraging behavior, and reproductive success in Pigeon Guillemots and Rhinoceros Auklets. A new study has been started to determine whether Western Gull interference or predation prohibits colony formation by Cassin's Auklets. Winter attendance by Common Murres and Western Gulls is being investigated. A book by David Ainley and Bob Boekelheide summarizing 13 years of breeding ecology of Farallon seabirds was published in 1990. David Ainley, Larry Spear, and Bill Sydeman continue to investigate pelagic distribution of seabirds in relation to prey in central California, in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service. They are investigating the distribution of seabirds and marine mammals in the Gulf of the Farallones using GIS techniques. This 2-year EPA contract study will be used to evaluate potential ocean dredge disposal sites.

B. Coast and Estuaries. Gary Page, Lynne Stenzel, Dave Shuford, and Janet Kjelmyr continue a shorebird ecology project, coordinating spring and fall shorebird surveys in coastal and interior wetlands of all states west of the Rocky Mountains. Staff and research associates continue to monitor breeding success and juvenile dispersal of snowy plovers along Monterey Bay. They are also conducting winter population surveys along the west coast, including Baja California (note: any snowy plover sightings from Baja would be gratefully received).

C. San Francisco Bay. Gary Page, Lynne Stenzel, Dave Shuford, and Janet Kjelmyr are investigating habitat use by shorebirds.

D. Mono Lake. Jan Dierks, Gary Page, and Dave Shuford continue studying breeding success and population size of California Gulls.

E. Antarctica and Other Regions. David Ainley and Bill Fraser, Old Dominion University of Virginia, are assessing the impacts of the oil spill resulting from the sinking of the Bahia Paraiso at Palmer Station, Antarctica. David Ainley, Larry Spear, and Chris Ribic, EPA in Corvallis, Oregon, continue studies of pelagic seabird communities in the eastern equatorial Pacific.

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

SFBBO continues to monitor colonial nesting birds in south San Francisco Bay. Jan Dierks recently completed her Master's thesis on chick diet of California Gulls.

USFWS/Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center - Dixon

An interim report was completed on 1989-1990 seabird colony surveys in northern and central California by Harry Carter, Deborah Jaques, Gerard McChesney, Craig Strong, Michael Parker, and Jean Takekawa, with collaboration by Point Reyes Bird Observatory. The study was funded by the Minerals Management Service. This report will not be available for distribution. NWPRC conducted seabird colony surveys in 1991 throughout the southern California bight (including the Channel Islands and mainland bluffs) with funding from MMS (PI Harry Carter, plus Gerry McChesney, Darrell Whitworth, David Lewis, Deborah Jory, with collaboration by Channel Islands National Park (Trudy Ingram) and assistance from the California Institute of Environmental Studies (Frank Gress) and the U.S. Navy (Tom Keeney). Highlights included the reestablishment of nesting Tufted Puffins after 78 years, first time nesting of Rhinoceros Auklets in this region, and several new colonies of Ashy Stormpetrels, Brandt's and Pelagic cormorants, and Pigeon Guillemots. A final report including new colony data for the whole state will not be available until 1992-1993.

Harry Carter has begun working with the U.S. Navy to develop a seabird monitoring program on San Nicholas Island in southern California.

Sarah Griffin and John Takekawa are conducting a study of wintering shorebird use of San Francisco Bay. Sarah Griffin will conduct this work as her Master's thesis through California State University - Hayward.

USFWS/Pacific Coast Field Station

Roger Hothem is conducting studies on contaminants and reproductive success in Snowy Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons in two colonies in San Francisco Bay. Joe Skorupa and Carolyn Marn continue to investigate reproductive success in many species of waterfowl and shorebirds in the Tulare Basin in agricultural drainwater areas.

Harry Ohlendorf has left his position as leader of the Pacific Coast Field Station to work as an Environmental Scientist for CH2M HILL (3840 Rosin Court, Suite 110, Sacramento, CA 95834). He continues to specialize in wildlife toxicology with a special interest in the effects of contaminants on aquatic birds. He is also working on projects related to broader issues of wetlands, environmental enhancement, and risk assessments.

USFWS/San Francisco Bay NWR

Louise Accurso is finishing her Master's research on the distribution and abundance of wintering waterfowl in San Francisco Bay through Humboldt State University. This project is led by John Takekawa of the FWS Northern Prairie Field Research Station in Dixon.

In 1992, Refuge biologists will continue aerial surveys of Common Murre breeding populations at Farallon NWR in cooperation with PRBO. Murre colonies throughout central and northern California will also be surveyed. Surveys were not conducted in 1991 due to funding constraints.

New boat restrictions at the Farallon Islands were approved by the California Department of Fish and Game Commission. Restrictions include a seasonal closures (March 15 to August 15) to boat traffic within 300 feet of parts of the islands, speed limits for all boats (5 mph within 1000 feet of islands, and noise restrictions for commercial dive boats engines and compressors. These will become new State regulations following a 30-day review period. Regulations were designed to provide improved protection to seabirds and marine mammals, particularly to Common Murres and Steller sea lions. The effectiveness of these regulations will be reevaluated annually.

Refuge biologists conducted a successful experiment using exclosures around Snowy Plover nests at Salinas River and San Francisco Bay NWRs, to protect them from red fox predation. This project was conducted in cooperation with PRBO. Exclosures will be used as a management tool to enhance plover production in future. Refuge biologists also tested the use of fencing to prevent predation by red foxes of a Caspian tern colony at SFBNWR, allowing the first chicks to be fledged from this colony in two years.

California clapper rail monitoring and studies in San Francisco Bay continue. The population has fallen to below 500 based on annual surveys coordinated by the Refuge. Predator management (focusing on non-native red foxes) was begun in May 1991. Joy Albertson, Cooperative Education student with the Refuge, began her Master's research on factors affecting reproductive success in California Clapper Rails, focusing on contaminants and predation.

NORTHEAST REGION, MARK TASKER

Norway

In Tromsø in northern Norway, Rob Barrett (Zoology Dept., Tromsø Museum, N-9000, Tromsø, Norway) and colleagues have been studying the effects of the collapse in capelin stocks in 1987. The consequent change in prey and prey availability has had considerable effects on the seabird populations of the area. Studies have been carried out on shags, Atlantic puffins, common murres, thick-billed murres and black-legged kittiwakes among others. Chick diet, clutch size, chick growth, feeding frequency, field metabolic rate,adult mortality and age at first breeding have all been examined. Other groups in Tromsø are studying the pelagic distribution of seabirds off northern Norway, eider duck behaviour and food on Svalbard and near Tromsø, and population genetic comparisons between different groups of breeding seabirds.

Further south in Norway, Torgeir Nygard (DvF, Viltforskningen, Tungasletta 2, 7000 Trondheim, Norway) has been working on non-seabird related pesticide contamination studies. Between times, he has radio-tagged some British storm petrels and a Leach's petrel, and succeeded in discovering a new breeding site.

Switzerland

Raymond Leveque (Station Ornithologique Suisse, CS-6204 Sempach, Switzerland) has limited opportunities to see seabirds, but was pleased to see a Japanese Gull in the Philippines in March. Other studies in Switzerland include some by W Suter on the relationship of great cormorant and fish and Prof. Tschanz's studies on the Atlantic alcidae.

Netherlands

Ruud van Halewyn (Utrecht University, Adelaarhof 14, 3514 TZ Utrecht, Netherlands) has continued to work on seabird conservation on Aruba in the Caribbean. Laughing gull and sooty tern populations on the islands have continued to grow. Roseate, common and bridled tern and brown noddy numbers have remained approximately stable, but fewer least terns are now present. The main species of interest, Cayenne tern, declined in numbers in 1990 due mainly to abnormally high predation from laughing gulls. The conservation project has stopped egg-collecting by local fishermen, but disturbance by recreational boaters has continued.

Maritime Canada

Dick Brown (CWS, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, PO Box 1006, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada) has repeated his study of the pelagic ecology of migrant phalaropes in the Bay of Fundy, eastern Canada. Back in the 1970s (Brown and Gaskin 1988. Ibis 130:234-250) Fundy was a major

stopover for both marine species in the fall: 10,000+ P. fulicarius on the Nova Scotian side and 100,000+ P. lobatus off New Brunswick, with surface copepod densities to match. But since 1985, the New Brunswick channels have been abandoned completely. Fieldwork in August 1990 showed that copepods were still abundant in the water column, but no longer come to the surface and into the phalarope's reach. Surface copepods off Nova Scotia were much as they used to be, but the dominant phalarope (only 5000+ of them) was now lobatus; fulicarius had probably moved offshore. Further work is planned.

New England

Christopher Haney (Marine Policy Center, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, USA) works on interdisciplinary issues related to the protection and uses of ocean resources, as well as mechanisms for international conservation. Luckily much of this includes work on seabirds. Specifically, work topics (often in association with others) have included: (i) compilation of a bibliography, position paper and recommendationsL for the conservation of the black-capped petrel in the West Indies; (ii) analysis of seabird distributions recorded in the Chukchi Sea; (iii) conservation status of the Aleutian tern; (iv) study of spatial partitioning within an alcid assemblage at sea; (v) study of the locational effects of internal wave packet propagation on seabirds at a coastal site in Alaska; (vi) studies of the geometric parameters for visual recruitment of individual seabirds to multi-species flocks in the open ocean; (vii) a joint study with colleagues from the USSR of environmental protection in the open ocean and (viii) studies for conservation decision making and optimal sampling designs for line transect assessments of seabird populations at sea.

Great Britain

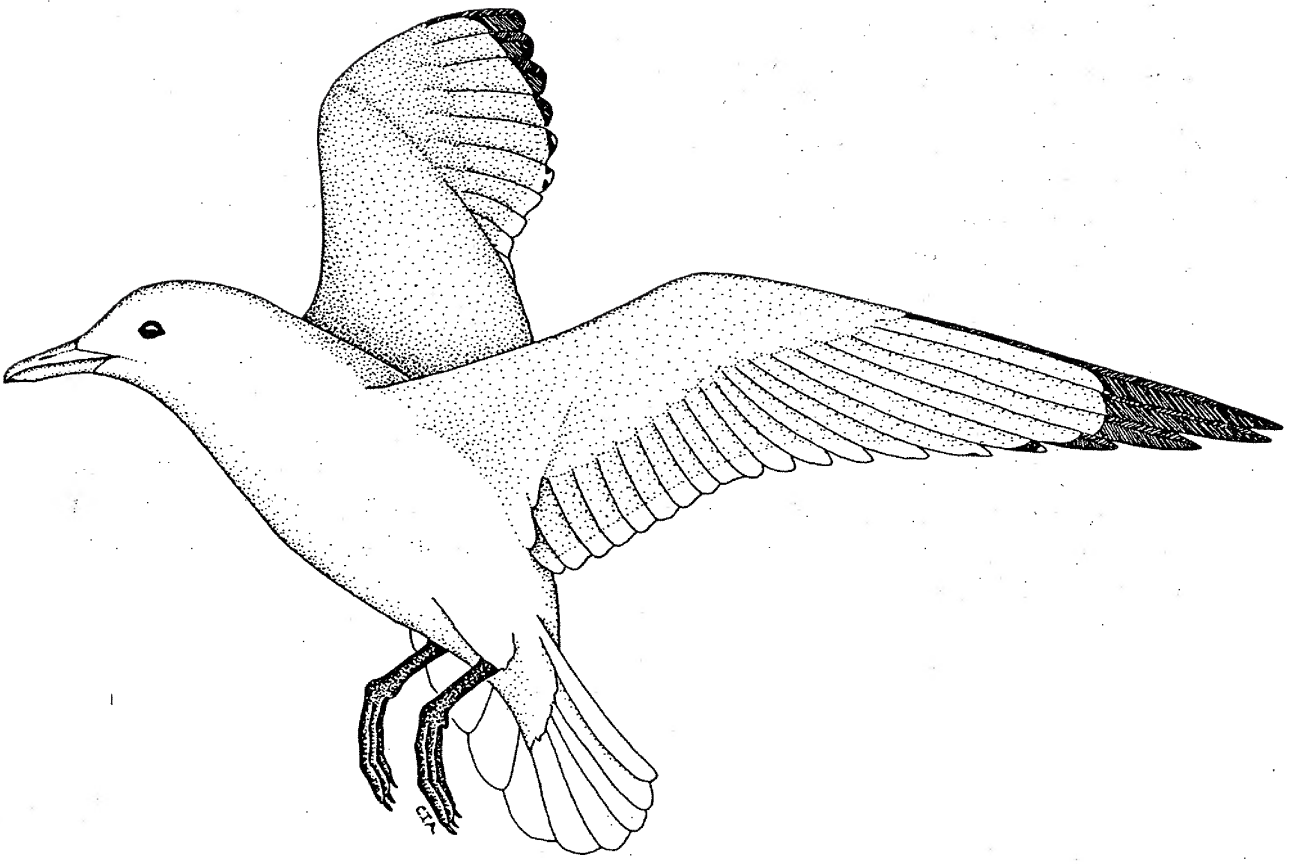
Lance Tickell (Dept of Zoology, University of Bristol, Woodland Road, Bristol, England) has continued work on a monograph on albatrosses at the same time as producing a television documentary on them called "Marathon Birds". This has been shown in Britain, and is due for transmission in the USA on PBS stations syndicated to NET.

Bill Bourne (3 Contlaw Place, Nilltimber, Aberdeen, Scotland) enquired into the effect of the long hot summer of 1989 on seabirds in north and west Britain (several species of seabird were not breeding successfully). He has also made many observations around the Falkland Islands and South Georgia (where many seabirds appear to profiting from fishing activities) and spent some time in the Arabian Gulf, where he saw rather few oiled seabirds. Results of the above activities are to be released to a waiting world in due course.

During the 1989-90 austral summer, Mike Harris and Sarah Wanless, ITE, Brathens Research Station, Banchory, Kincardineshire, Scotland) in association with the British Antarctic Survey spent 3 months on South

Georgia looking at the activity budgets and diving behaviour of blue-eyed shags. After this happy diversion they continued their population studies of common murres and Atlantic puffins on the Isle of May, and in collaboration with Alan Burger (University of Victoria) are working on shag foraging behaviour. Duncan Halley (University of St Andrews) and Chris Wernham (University of Stirling) are investigating the recruitment of common murres and the energetics and body condition of Atlantic puffins for their respective PhDs using the Isle of May colour-banded populations.

Mark Tasker (NCC, 17 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, Scotland) and a small team of co-workers have continued their studies of British seabirds. Surveys at sea are focused presently on the waters to the south and southwest of the British Isles, following publication (in late 1990) of two large reports on studies of waters to the west of Britain. Particular projects include work on the year-to-year stability in seabird distribution patterns, the feeding areas of seabirds off southwest Wales, and the effects of some oceanographic patterns on seabird distribution. A book has been published documenting the results of the collaborative project with the Seabird Group on the location and size of Britain and Ireland's seabird colonies. A comprehensive monitoring programme of both numbers and productivity of this seabird population has also been established. Other work has included the establishment of a common seabirds-at-sea database with European colleagues, a report on the use of international legislation for protecting seabirds when away from land and commencement of work on restoring islands for seabirds by removal of predatory mammals. This latter followed inspiration from New Zealand at the recent ICBP/IOC meetings.



PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
23 JANUARY 1991
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Doug Siegel-Causey called the meeting to order at 1535. A quorum was present consisting of: Doug Siegel-Causey, Malcolm Coulter, Beth Flint, George Divoky, Joel Hubbard, Jim Lovvorn, Roy Lowe, and Jean Takekawa. Proxies were held for Ellen Chu, Roger Clapp, James Ludwig, Ken McDermond, and Kees Vermeer. There were 15 others in attendance.

1. Malcolm Coulter moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and that they be accepted. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. George Divoky summarized the treasurer's report submitted by Ellen Chu. It was moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Doug Siegel-Causey reported that he had received a letter from the publishing company, Harcourt, Brace, and Jovanovich, requesting the purchase of the Pacific Seabird Group mailing list in order to target members on titles about seabirds. He said the custom was to sell the list to be used on a case-by-case basis and that the going price was $50 for a one-time mailing. A motion was made to sell the list to the publisher for a one-time mailing. **MOTION PASSED.**

Art Sowls reported that the Center for Marine Conservation had offered to place any interested members on a mailing list to receive newsletters about marine sanctuaries. He said he would approach them about taking our entire list.

4. Malcolm Coulter gave the editors report and announced that both bulletins had been late this year, primarily because members did not submit their materials on time. The deadlines are 15 January and 15 June. It was brought up that by having the meeting in the new year made it difficult to get the minutes and abstracts in to the spring edition. The question was raised as to whether we could change the publication dates. The chair proposed we continue discussion of the bulletin and editorship later in the meeting.

5. Reports of the Standing Committees

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Art Sowls announced the meeting of the Conservation Committee would be held on 24 January at 1505. He reported that the standard procedure of going over issues at the meeting and then soliciting volunteers to write letters had not worked well last year, so he suggested a new plan. He asked

people to draft letters in advance so they could be discussed and polished at the meeting.

Items placed on the agenda for this year's meeting were:

Encouragement for fishing techniques that reduce albatross mortality in long-line fisheries.

Letter to the EPA and the FWS to remove foxes and other introduced predators from Alaskan Islands. This was discussed before, but not much progress has been made.

Driftnet fisheries resolution. It was left to be decided whether this would come out of the Seabird-Fisheries Committee or the Conservation Committee.

Oil-spill subcommittee. A public meeting was put on by several environmental organizations regarding the Exxon spill. Much new legislation was generated but there are still many concerns regarding crew size, tension cracks, and ship condition.

Lawsuits will provide money for restoration. PSG should draft letters recommending how this should be spent. Several options have been proposed: 1) purchasing colonies from private parties; 2) removing foxes as mitigation; and 3) buying timber rights.

The committee sent a letter to the San Francisco Bay NWR in support of their efforts at closures around the Farallon Islands at certain times of the year. They also need support in their predator control efforts regarding non-native red fox causing mortality for Clapper Rails.

Craig Harrison sent a letter regarding the lack of public meetings about marine sanctuaries in Hawaii and Alaska, and that none had been proposed for those areas.

Three other marine sanctuaries have been proposed: Monterey Bay, Washington outer Coastal Islands, and Puget Sound. Rachel Saunders of the Center for Marine Conservation may be available to address these proposals at the general business meeting.

Over-harvested fisheries in Channel Islands and Brown Pelican food supply.

Disturbance brochures are proceeding. The Alaska version is in camera-ready copy. FWS paid for that and through a challenge grant with Prince William Sound Users Association we are going to get it printed by Alyeska

(Color-5000 copies). The Baja California version is next and we are seeking funding. The Center for Marine Conservation may help.

Palmer Sekora alerted the group that the federal agencies have been re-examining the Coastal Barriers Act for the west coast and have come up with new designations. Art Sowls asked for those who know the issue to draft letters.

Malcolm Coulter suggested that conservation issues be shared with the Colonial Waterbird Society by sending letters to Steve Kress, the ICBP Seabird Group (David Duffy), and ICBP US Section (Malcolm is the PSG representative). Art Sowls recommended getting closer ties with professional conservation organizations. Palmer Sekora reminded the group that the individual private citizen's responses are given great weight by the government.

Malcolm Coulter moved to acknowledge the great activity of the Conservation Committee. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

Harry Carter reported that the request for those interested in the Seabird Colony Committee resulted in two responses. It was decided to discuss it further in the Conservation Committee meeting with reference to new censuses needed for the west coast.

SEABIRD-FISHERIES COMMITTEE

The report was deferred until later.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The report was deferred until after the PSG 2000 meeting.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Doug Siegel-Causey thanked Doug Forsell for his efforts in getting the Elections committee back on track. The problem of finding people willing to run was discussed. It was suggested that the Secretary and Treasurer positions be two-years alternating. George Divoky suggested having potential officers run unopposed because there is opportunity for everyone who is interested to get to be a council member at some point. Competition doesn't seem realistic for PSG. Lora Leschner pointed out that membership might not vote if there were no competition and we would get into a situation like the AOU in which the general membership became removed from the decision-making. Palmer Sekora believes that this whole problem reflects the sad state of PSG. The results of the election were scheduled to be announced at the business meeting.

6. Old Business

The report of the Local Committee was deferred until later.

A decision about bylaw changes was also deferred.

Doug Siegel-Causey reported on the history of the joint publication issue and the origin of the Ad Hoc Committee (PSG 2000) chaired by Palmer Sekora and Craig Harrison. Craig Harrison addressed joint publication and other issues of importance to PSG. Further discussion was deferred until later.

Malcolm Coulter is stepping down as editor of the Bulletin after five years. The chair has the responsibility of appointing a new editor. George Divoky relayed to the council that Ellen Chu and Kerry Lu might consider taking on the job in a year or two. Doug Siegel-Causey volunteered to take on the responsibility at least for now. C.J. Ralph offered some assistance. George Divoky nominated Doug Siegel-Causey and the council voted in favor.

The Alcids at Sea Symposium is complete and PSG forwarded the $1500 pledged to it. The editors of the North Temperate Pacific Symposium, Kees, Vermeer, Ken Briggs, and Doug Siegel-Causey have received almost all manuscripts and Kees is projecting publication in early 1992. Kees suggested that PSG contribute $2500 (or the profit from the Victoria meeting). The chair reported that the council did not discuss this at the Victoria meeting. The Canadian Wildlife Service is paying $15,000 and the USFWS is giving $5000. Harry Carter mentioned that the same issue will come up with the Marbled Murrelet Symposium, because the Western Foundation would like some assistance so the publication won't be so expensive for people to buy. This publication is due to be out in 1991. This decision was postponed for the last meeting along with other budget matters.

Doug Siegel-Causey pointed out that supporting symposia is one of the most important functions of the PSG.

7. New Business

The importance of advance planning for annual meetings in order to keep down expenses was discussed. Roy Low of Western Oregon National Wildlife Refuges and Jan Hodder of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology offered to co-host the next annual meeting. OIMB in Charleston has facilities for 150 people to meet, can house 40 people, and feed 100 people. Local motels will accommodate others. The daily cost for those staying at OIMB would be $30/day, which would be attractive to students.

Access is from the Portland airport into North Bend. It was pointed out that there has never been a PSG meeting in Oregon. Ken Briggs moved to accept this invitation to hold the 1991 meeting at OIMB. **MOTION PASSED.**

George Divoky moved to dispense with the year designation and call the present meeting the 18th annual meeting. **MOTION PASSED.**

The relative merits of various meeting dates were discussed. George Divoky moved that we consult the membership regarding meeting date. **MOTION PASSED.**

The next meeting (20th annual) was proposed for Seattle in order to celebrate this anniversary. Since central California is the center of gravity for the organization, Davis was suggested for the meeting after Seattle. Malcolm moved that we have the next three annual meetings in Oregon, Seattle, and Davis. **MOTION PASSED.** George Divoky was designated chairman of the anniversary meeting.

Palmer Sekora reported on the status of the PSG 2000 report. They have produced a document and list of recommendations and will meet tomorrow with the membership to discuss whether PSG is what it was intended to be and what we want for the future.

Doug Siegel-Causey reported that the USSR Seabird Group, an interest group of the USSR Ornithological Society, desires to have a meeting in the Soviet Union at Magadan. The USFWS is sponsoring cooperative projects.

Lora Leschner announced that Kim Nelson has taken over the Marbeled Murrelet Technical Committee.

The council adjourned and reconvened at 1930 on 25 January.

A quorum was present consisting of Doug Siegel-Causey, Malcolm Coulter, Beth Flint, Ken Briggs, Mike Fry, Scott Hatch, Donna Brewer, George Divoky, Joel Hubbard, Jim Lovvorn, Roy Lowe, and Jean Takekawa. Proxies were held for Roger Clapp, James Ludwig, Kees Vermeer, Ellen Chu, and Ken McDermond. There were 17 others in attendance.

The discussion of the joint publication issue was scheduled to begin at 2000.

1. Report of the Local Committee

At the time of the meeting, $4933 had been spent on the meeting. $5050 has been taken in. Fewer people (65) than the minimum number of 100 that we had verbally guaranteed purchased banquet tickets so we requested that the chefs cook lightly and perhaps charge less. We will only be a few hundreds in the old due to the good work by Nancy Naslund under difficult conditions. A

gift for Nancy was proposed. Ken Briggs prepared a resolution commending her and Doug Siegel-Causey will present her with a print.

2. Ellen Chu's suggestion that we provide financial assistance for officers to attend meetings was discussed. This might range from an honorarium to complete expenses paid. Ken Briggs felt getting to the meeting should be the responsibility of the officer. Beth Flint thought it should be an option when deemed necessary by the council. C.J. Ralph informed the group that the Cooper Society has such a policy but that not many had ever needed it. Ken Briggs moved that at presidential discretion we give support for travel for required executive council members in need of it. George Divoky stated it would be appropriate for those members without institutional support. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. In the past, PSG has voted to support the Latin America Seabird Bulletin but Malcolm Coulter has been able to get SREL to provide the support. This is finite so we need to vote again on the issue. Malcolm Coulter moved that we offer $250 per year to support the Latin America Seabird Bulletin. **MOTION PASSED.**

4. Two resolutions generated in the Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee meeting were read. Both MOTIONS PASSED.

5. Two resolutions from the Conservation Committee were read, one urging the USFWS and the Minerals Management Service to survey seabirds in Baja California and the other concerning the High Seas Driftnet Fisheries. Both **MOTIONS PASSED.**

6. Doug Siegel-Causey opened the discussion of the joint publication with the Colonial Waterbird Society (CWBS). By virtue of the proxy request sent out, the council was voting on the motion to approve to enter in binding negotiation with CWBS in order to publish jointly a scientific journal. Ralph Morris wanted to inform PSG of what CWBS had passed as motions. Keith Bildstein read the minutes from the August meeting in Newfoundland in order to clarify the issues. George Hunt stated that he was not in favor of this motion because he believes seabird biologists should put their papers in publications such as oceanographic, fisheries, or conservation journals in order to reach a wider audience. He thinks there are too many journals and a narrowly defined one will not be read by many. Our best papers should be in top-ranked bird journals and we should use meetings like this one to communicate with other seabird biologists. Scott Hatch made a statement in favor of preserving our options for now. He wants it to be a first-rate effort and not a place to dump our papers. George Hunt reported that program directors at NSF had told him to publish in general marine journals instead of bird journals. Scott Hatch said the decision should be made on the philosophical issues and not based on financial concerns. George Hunt voiced the concerned brought up at the IOC that small journals have a role in

generating local excitement and providing a particular kind of outlet and that a consolidation of all seabird journals might damage local societies. Joel Hubbard asked for clarification of some of the assertions about the effect of a joint publication made in the PSG 2000 report. Keith Bildstein reported that CWBS dues have not been raised since the inception of the journal and that the cost won't be substantial. He put forth that "first-tier" journals don't necessary start out that way, and that each journal serves a function. Papers should be appropriate to the at journal, not rejects form other. Ken Briggs argued that Hunt's concern that papers would not be easily located was not a problem because most people used abstracting services now. Malcolm Coulter called the question. Ken Briggs pointed out the similarity between this decision and getting married and encourage a positive attitude. Craig Harrison asked for a hand vote. There were 7 in favor, 7 opposed. Under parliamentary rules, the Chair voted no to break the tie. **MOTION DEFEATED.**

The chair called a 5-minute recess.

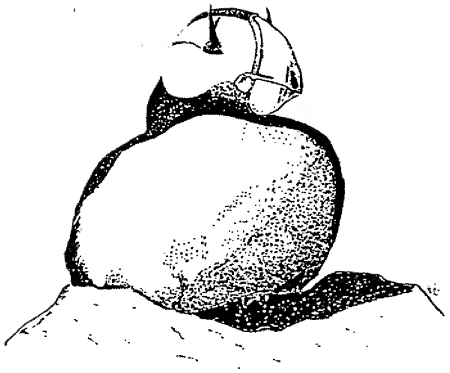
7. The best dates for the 19th annual meeting were decided to be 15 to 19 January, 1992. Martin Luther King Day is 20 January. The sense of the meeting was to accept those dates. Doug Siegel-Causey stated that the local committee was in place. The 20th annual meeting will be held in Seattle in 1993. George Divoky and Lora Leschner are already working on it and have suggested the Edgewater and Aquarium as the conference site. As was done in Victoria, they hope to arrange an evening session on local Puget Sound issues with participation from the community. Jim Lovvorn encourage the planning of the symposia because of their tendency to bring in more people. George Divoky suggested that hazardous materials people could be brought in to discuss oil-spill issues.

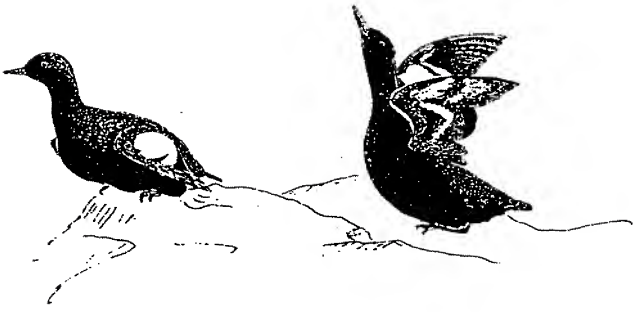
8. There was a request by Kees Vermeer to support the North Pacific Seabird Symposium at a level of $2500. George Hunt said that authors need to know ahead of time whether or not they will have to pay. Craig Harrison stated that profits made at meetings should go to the symposia. The Murrelet Symposium was brought up and George Hunt suggested $1000, if it was required. Michael Fry made the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

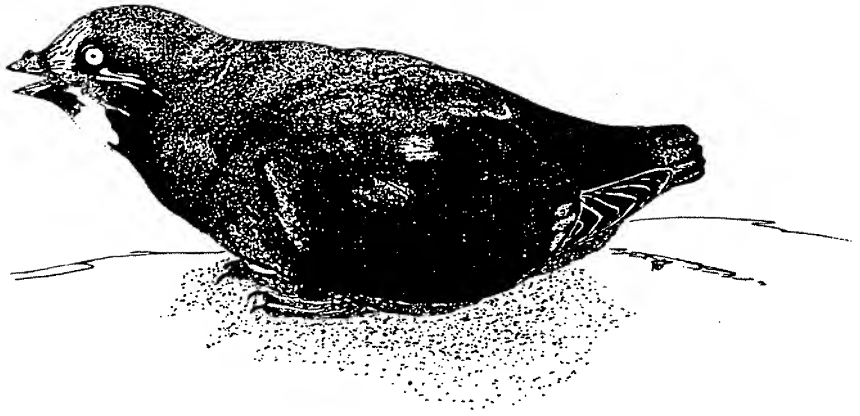
9. A motion was made to disband the bylaw committee and have Palmer Sekora, the Chair-elect, appoint a new one. **MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth N. Flint, Secretary.







Based on recommendations by the Bylaw Committee (Palmer Sekora, Chairman, Doug Siegel-Causey, Malcolm Coulter), the following Bylaws were approved by the Executive Council and ratified by the general membership with a vote of 159 for adoption and 6 against. The Bylaws are dated 6 August 1991.

BYLAWS OF THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

ARTICLE 1. NAME, OBJECTIVES AND COMPOSITION

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the Pacific Seabird Group.

Section 2. Objectives. The objectives of the Group are exclusively scientific, educational, conservational, and nonprofit. In furtherance of these objectives, the Group's principal activities will be (l) to increase the amount and quality of scientific research on Pacific seabirds, (2) to educate the Group's members and the general public of the importance of Pacific seabirds and their environment, (3) to disseminate publications and other information to accomplish this end, and (4) to advocate for the conservation of Pacific seabirds wherever they occur.

Section 3. Composition. The Pacific Seabird group shall be composed of those persons, regardless of sex, race, religion, or nationality, interested in Pacific seabirds and their environment.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Status. Membership in the group shall be open to all persons interested in Pacific seabirds.

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Council as needed to meet the financial requirements of the Groups, and payable in advance by January of each year.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The Pacific Seabird Group. The group is governed by a board of directors called the Executive Council.

Section 2. The Executive Council.

Clause A. Composition. The number of members on the Executive Council will be 10. The Executive Council is composed of all Group Officers, Pacific Seabird Group Bulletin Editor, past Chairs of the three previous years, and one Regional Representative from each of the following (11) regions: Alaska, British Columbia and Washington State, Oregon and Northern California (members with Zip Codes starting with 954, 955, and 959-961), Central California (members with Zip Codes starting with 939-953 and 956-958: includes Sacramento, San Francisco, Monterey),

Southern California (members with Zip Codes starting with 920-938). Pacific (Hawaii, South Pacific, Asia), Latin America, Northeast (Maritime Canada, New England States, Europe), Southeast (U.S. states and Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes), and Inland (all others).

Clause B. Duties. The Executive Council will pursue such policies and principles as shall be in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws. The Executive Council, by a majority vote, shall have the power to fill, for unexpired terms, vacancies occurring in its membership; recommend changes in the Bylaws; develop objectives, policies, and programs; perform such other duties as are prescribed herein; and may assign to the Chair any responsibilities authorized to it by the bylaws.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the Group shall be a Chair, Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair for Conservation, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Any member in good standing may be elected to an office. The Executive Council, with the exception of the Officers, will serve as a nominating committee. The Officers will be elected by a majority vote of the membership in an election held at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Officers will serve for the succeeding year.

Section 2. Chair. The Chair shall be responsible for executing the objectives, policies, and programs developed by the Executive Council and membership, for all those administrative and marginal decisions, duties, and activities normally associated with carrying on the affairs of such an organization. The Chair shall preside over meetings of the Executive Council at the annual meeting and carry out other duties as assigned by, or assumed under, the broad policies of the Executive Council. In the absence of the Chair, or upon an inability to serve, duties shall be assumed by the Chair-Elect.

Section 3. Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect shall be assigned duties by the Chair. The Chair-Elect shall succeed to the office of chair upon the completion of the Chair's term of office.

Section 4. Vice-Chair for Conservation. The Vice-Chair for Conservation is responsible for initiation and coordination of conservation related activities of the Group.

Section 5. Secretary. The Secretary shall be assigned duties by the Chair. The Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes at Group and Executive Council meetings.

Section 6. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the Group. Assets in the general fund accounts shall be made subject to the single signature of the Treasurer, Chairman, and other members approved by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS AND FILLING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SEATS

Section 1. Nominations. Before 1 May of each year, the Secretary will announce in a Group publication or by card or letter the regional and non-regional seats that will be

opening the next calendar year. Nominations for these seats will be received by the Coordinator of the Election Committee until 1 June of the same year.

Section 2. Balloting. When at least one member has been nominated for a single regional seat on the Executive Council, The Coordinator of the Election committee will mail a ballot bearing the nominations to all members with residence in the area represented by the seat. Prior approval shall be obtained from said nominees. Thirty days will be allowed for the election ballots to be returned to the Coordinator of the Elections Committee. Seats representing each region will be filled by the nominees receiving the largest vote for each seat. In the event of a tie, the selection shall be made by a majority vote of the current Executive Council. Vacancies occurring on the Executive Council due to a lack of nominations shall be filled by a majority vote of the Council. Council members elected in this manner need not live in the area they represent.

Section 3. Tenure. Members in regional seats shall serve for terms of two calendar years. Executive Council members from Alaska, British Columbia and Washington State, Oregon and Northern California, Pacific, and Latin America shall serve two-year terms beginning in odd-numbered years. Executive Council Members from Central California, Southern California, Northeast, Southeast, Great Lakes, and Inland shall serve two-year terms beginning in even-numbered years.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. Executive Council.

Clause A. Frequency and Notice. The Executive Council shall meet annually at a time and place to be selected by the Executive Council. Executive Council meetings shall be open to the general membership. Special meetings of the Executive Council may be called by the Chair or upon written request of three Executive Council members when it is deemed necessary for the business of the Executive Council. Notice shall be addressed to all Executive Council members at least 30 days prior to said meetings. Whenever possible, the time and place of the Executive Council meeting will be announced in a group publication.

Clause B. Proxies. In the event a member of the Executive Council is unable to attend a meeting, the member is authorized to appoint any qualified member of the Group as an alternative, provided that the Chair is notified in writing. The appointment of any alternate to act for a member of the Executive Council shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Clause C. Quorum. Ten members of the Executive Council shall constitute a meeting quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. Group Meetings.

Clause A. Frequency and Notice. Meeting of the group will be held as often as the Executive Council deems necessary at such times and places as designated by the Executive Council. Due notice of Group meetings shall be given to all members at least 30 days in advance through a Group publication or by letter or card to their last known mailing address.

Clause B. Resolutions. Resolutions proposed for consideration at any meeting of the Group, except for expressions of appreciation, must have prior approval of a

majority of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VII. FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Section 1. General. The fiscal affairs of the Group shall be under the supervision of the Executive Council and shall be handled by the Treasurer.

Section 2. Administration of Assets. Income from dues or contributions shall be placed in a federally insured bank or savings and loan association.

ARTICLE VIII. RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The Executive Council shall as need arises, formulate and publish statements expressing the position or attitude of the group on matters coming under the provisions of Article 1 of the Bylaws. When an issue is known to be highly controversial, with the membership holding widely divergent opinions, the views of the members shall be solicited.

ARTICLE IX. PUBLICATIONS

The Group shall issue publications as determined by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Pacific Seabird Group, the Executive Council shall distribute the assets and the accrued income of the Group, as determined by the Executive Council, to one or more organizations which are organized and operated exclusively for educational and/or scientific purposes and which have established their tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Section 1. Origin. Amendments to these Bylaws must be ordered to be submitted to the voting membership for action either by a majority of the members present at any annual meeting of the Group, or by a majority of the Executive Council.

Section 2. Adoption. These Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the Group, if advance notice of the proposed changes is contained in the notice of the meeting; provided, however, that any member unable to attend the meeting may request the Secretary in writing before such meeting to register a vote for the member either for or against the amendment in question and such vote shall be counted with the votes of the members present. These Bylaws may also be altered or amended by a majority of the members who return ballots in response to a proposed amendment, notice of which must have been mailed to all voting members at least 30 days prior to the close of the ballot. The results of all such ballots shall be filed with the permanent records.

DUTIES OF OFFICE HOLDERS

Chair

(1) Oversee all activities of the Group.
(2) Play a central role in initiating, editing, and distributing PSG policy statements.
(3) Act as official spokesman for the Group.
(4) Designate people to carry out certain tasks not covered by the duties listed for other officers.
(5) Chair the meeting of the Executive Council and/or the full membership.
(6) Inform the Executive Council of PSG activities.
(7) Keep abreast of conservation issues and inform council members when appropriate.
(8) Write a Chair's Page for each PSG Bulletin.

Chair-Elect

(1) Carry out duties assigned by the Chair.
(2) Act as Program chair for the annual meeting by requesting, receiving, selecting, and editing abstracts and sending them to the coordinator of Local Committee for inclusion in the program.
(3) Investigate locations for future annual meetings. The Chair-Elect should come to council meetings with information on the location for the next meeting and a choice of two or three sites for the meeting to be held in three years.

Vice-Chair for Conservation

(1) Identify and keep informed on issues pertaining to the conservation of seabirds.
(2) Prepare information on high priority conservation issues and distribute to the membership and others interested in seabird conservation.
(3) Act for PSG as directed by the Chair on priority conservation issues at public forums and through written comments.
(4) Chair the Conservation Committee and as such report activities to the Executive Council at the annual meeting and in at least one of the issues of the Group's publication.

Secretary

(1) Take minutes at annual council and membership meetings.
(2) Maintain a list of publications and organizations to receive notice of PSG meetings and other activities.
(3) Serve as liaison to coordinator of Local Committee.
(4) Prepare notice of request for nominations for Regional Representatives and send to the members through PSG Bulletin.
(5) Arrange for printing and mailing of meeting announcements, etc.

Treasurer

(1) Receive membership applications, requests for Bulletins, etc.
(2) Keep listing of current members on address labels and send labels to the Secretary for mailing of the Bulletin.
(3) Maintain an accounting of PSG funds.

(4) Receive receipts for persons authorized to spend PSG money and reimburse them by check.

(5) Complete income tax statement and perform other duties relating to PSG's status as a tax exempt group.

(6) Prepare a Treasurer's report for the annual meeting and Bulletin.

(7) Receive income from dues and sale of Bulletin.

Regional Representatives

(l) Contact seabird researchers in their region at least once a year and report all current research in the regional report.

(2) Keep abreast of marine conservation issues in the region and report at least one of the issues in each regional report; send newspaper clippings on important conservation issues to the Chair.

(3) Establish and maintain contact with local conservation groups so that PSG is aware of their activities and they are aware of PSG's.

(4) Keep copies of all correspondence with seabird researchers and conservation groups.

Editor

(l) Contact individuals and organizations concerning potential articles for Bulletin.

(2) Receive and edit regional reports, articles, bulletin board items, etc.

(3) Produce final copy of the Bulletin.

(4) Arrange for printing and mailing of Bulletins.

Coordinator of Local Committee

(l) Make arrangement for use of meeting facilities.

(2) Produce a meeting announcement, preregistration form, and call for papers and send to Secretary for mailing.

(3) Form and coordinate Local Committee.

(4) Carry out activities outlined in PSG meeting instructions.

(5) Keep records of all money spent and received, and prepare a budget statement after meeting.

Working Committee Coordinators

(l) Report to the Council the activities and accomplishments of the working group.

Election Committee Coordinator

(l) Receive nominations for Council seats.

(2) Mail ballots.

(3) Tabulate ballots and inform Council members and the editor.

THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA PROJECT invites inquiries from ornithologists interested in producing thorough accounts of the biology of seabirds breeding in the US and Canada. Such modern, authoritative accounts are needed for sound conservation planning and management of these species, as well as to catalyze and direct further research. Each account, 30 - 40 double-spaced typewritten pages in length, will be available electronically and as an individual printed fascicle fitted to an attractive loose-leaf binder, ensuring rapid, economical distribution and accessibility without the rigid sequence constraints and production delays of book publication. Accounts will be printed in color. Contributors, amateur and professional alike, can expect a modest administrative subsidy, a discount on the series, and recognition as an authority on their species.

The following seabirds, in particular, need authors: Northern Fulmar; Black-capped Petrel; Laysan and Black-footed Albatross; Manx Shearwater; Fork-tailed, Ashy, and Least Storm-Petrel; Blue-footed and Brown Booby, Northern Gannet; Pigeon Guillemot; Marbled, Kittlitz's, Craveri's, and Ancient Murrelet; Parakeet and Rhinoceros Auklet; Horned Puffin.

If you would like to participate, call or write: ALAN POOLE, Managing Editor, Birds of North America/ANSP, 1900 Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1195. Phone: (215) 299-1042 Fax: (215) 299-1182.

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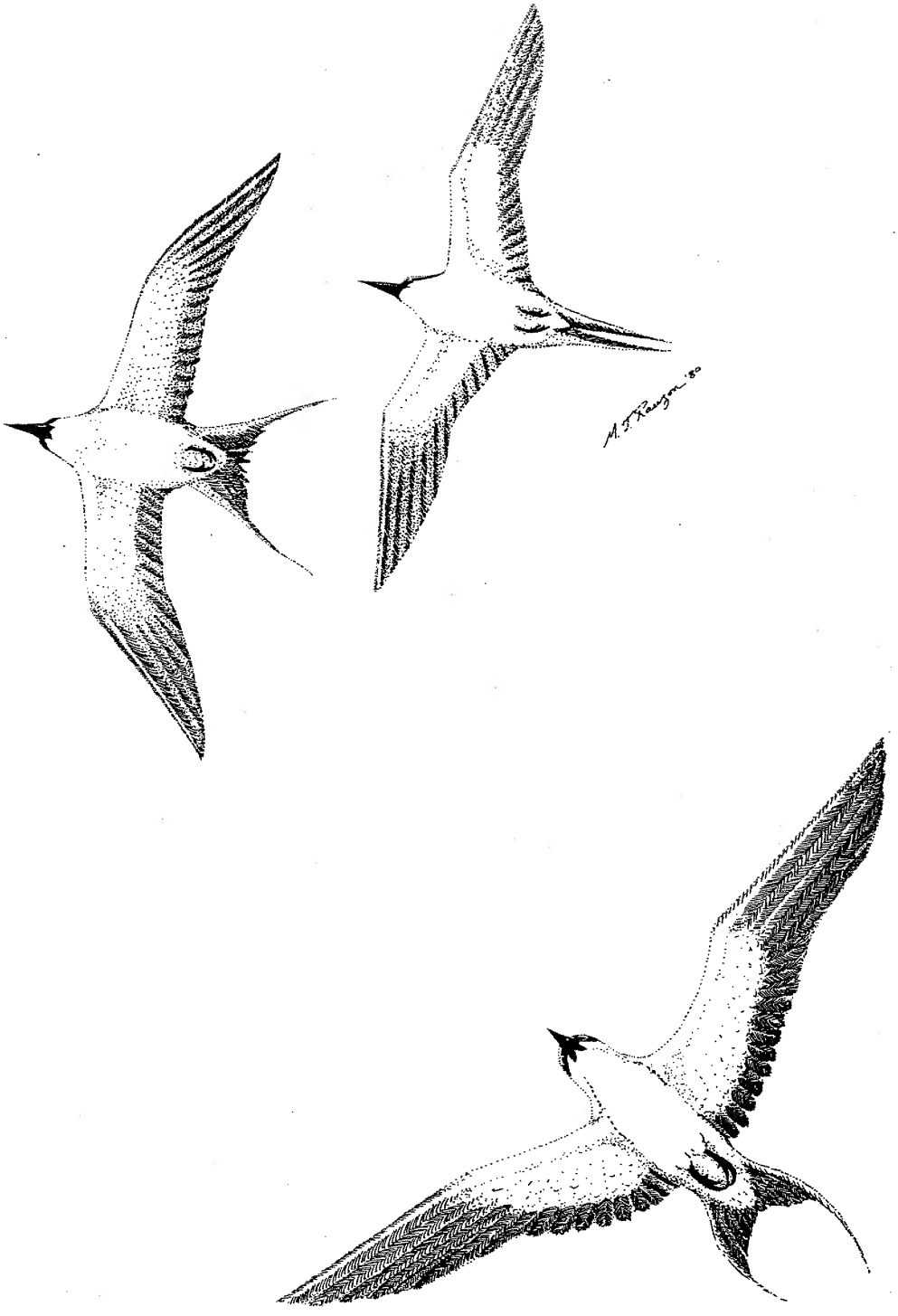
EARTHWATCH, a private non-profit organization that promotes significant scholarship by offering capital, labor, and greater visability to the scientific community, will award >140 grants in 1992. Field grant's range from $10,000 - $100,000, with the average grant about $20,000. Funds are contributed by nonspecialist volunteers who participate in the field research. Preliminary proposals may be made by telephone or by a detailed letter; upon favorable review, full proposals will be invited for submittal 12 months before the starting date of the project. For futher information contact Dee Robbins, Program Director, The Center for Field Research, 680 Mt. Auburn Street, PO Box 403, Watertown, MA 02172. Telephone (617) 926-8200



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Although donations are not required as a condition for distribution of the *Atoll Research Bulletins* listed below, they wil be accepted gratefully for support of continued seabird research and of the *Atoll Research Bulletin*. Please make your check payable to the KU Endowment Association.

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ARB No. 150. December 20, 1971. **The Natural History of French Frigate Shoals, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by A. Binion Amerson, Jr. *xi* + 383 pp.

ARB Nos. 163-164. December 31, 1972.
No. 163. **The Natural History of Gardner Pinnacles, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by Roger B. Clapp. *iv* + 29 pp.
No. 164. **The Natural History of Kure Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by Paul W. Woodward. *xxi* + 318 pp.

ARB No. 171. December 31, 1973. **The Natural History of Laysan Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by Charles A. Ely and Roger B. Clapp. *xi* + 361 pp.

ARB No. 192. December 1976. **The Natural History of Johnston Atoll, Central Pacific Ocean** by A. Binion Amerson, Jr. and Philip C. Shelton. *xx* + 479 pp.

ARB Nos. 206-207. May 1977.
No. 206. **The Natural History of Necker Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by Roger B. Clapp and Eugene Kridler. *iv* + 102 pp.
No. 207. **The Natural History of Nihoa Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** by Roger B. Clapp, Eugene Kridler, and Robert R. Fleet. *vi* + 147 pp.

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